

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 014335

SUBJECT: AP PRAGUE REPORT OF ALLEGED RENUNCIATION OF U.S.-
CZECHOSLOVAK CLAIMS AGREEMENT

REF.: VIENNA 425

1. CZECH NEWS AGENCY (CTK) REPORT ON SESSION OF FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEES OF CZECHOSLOVAK FEDERAL ASSEMBLY
(FBIS-EEU-75-12, JAN. 17, 1975) WHICH APPEARED IN RUDE
PRAVO ON JANUARY 16 STATES THAT COMMITTEES "...EXPRESSED
REGRET THAT THE AMERICAN CONGRESS HAD VOTED FOR THE TRADE
LAW STIPULATIONS WHICH CONTAIN CONDITIONS WHICH ARE UN-
ACCEPTABLE FOR THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES". ARTICLE ALSO
NOTES THAT U.S. CONGRESS HAD ADOPTED AN AMENDMENT TO BILL
WHICH PREVENTS SIGNING OF THE U.S.-CZECHOSLOVAK CLAIMS
AGREEMENT INITIALLED ON JULY 5, 1974. REPORT SAID NOTHING
ABOUT FEDERAL ASSEMBLY RENOUNCING CLAIMS AGREEMENT.

2. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT PROBLEM OVER AP STORY,
WHICH PRECIPITATED OFFICIAL DENIAL OF SUBSTANCE OF REPORT
BY CZECH AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA (REFTEL), AROSE BECAUSE AP'S
NEW YORK OFFICE MADE SOME ERRONEOUS CHANGES IN LEAD PARA-
GRAPH OF DISPATCH FROM PRAGUE STRINGER.

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